

The Columbian Players
Of Saint Joseph's College
Present



Book Music and Lyrics by
Mark Craver and Mark Hardwick
Mike

RADIO GALS premiered at the Arkansas Repertory Theatre in Little Rock on March 18, 1993 in association with the Arkansas Power and Light Company.

RADIO GALS was produced in New York by Elliot Martin and Ron Shapiro

The Columbian Players
Present

RADIO GALS
Book, Music and lyrics by
Mark Craver and Mark Hardwick

Direction by John Rahe

Costumes by H. Lieder Rahe

Cast

Hazel Hunt.....Sara Reasoner
Rennabelle Hatch.....Sarah Morningstar
America Hatch.....Theresa Richer
Miss Mabel Swindle.....Maura Giles
Miss Azilee Swindle.....Elizabeth Musick
Gladys Fritts.....Amanda Grote
O.B. Abbott.....Doug Koleszar
Miss Hannah.....Hannah Pace
Miss Brienne.....Brienne Hopkins
Miss Kim.....Kim Gabryel

Act 1: The living room of Hazel Hunt's house in Cedar Ridge, Arkansas. A morning in 1925.

Act 2: Later that same day.

There will be one ten minute intermission

Please: no flash photography during the performance

Acknowledgements

Robb Theil and SJC Bands
The SJC Music Department
Jeremy Hoy
Marriott Food Service
WPUM Radio
SJC Student Activities

Directors Note

The early days of radio, before the FCC, were a time of pioneers. If someone had the means to support it, they could buy a transmitter, get a license from the Dept. of Commerce and broadcast whatever they wanted to for as long as the public would listen. This often led to some interesting programming, such as Dr. J. R. Brinkley of Kansas who used the airwaves in the 1920's and 30's to push his medical practice. Dr. Brinkley specialized in "revitalizing" the male libido through goat "gland" transplants and he broadcast this miracle cure all across the Midwest. When the state threatened to shut him down, he ran a write-in campaign for Governor of the state of Kansas on his station and almost won, but, fortunately for Kansas, many of his followers didn't spell his name correctly on the ballot. He even got 18,000 votes in Oklahoma.

Evangelist Aimee Semple MacPherson ran a radio station out of her temple in Los Angeles and got into trouble for "wave-jumping", the practice of wandering from channel to channel looking for "clear air." This was a violation of the wavelength code and soon Ms. MacPherson was visited by a federal government inspector. MacPherson responded to this by firing off the following telegram to then Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover: "*Please order your minions of Satan to leave my station alone. You cannot expect the Almighty to abide by your wavelength nonsense. When I offer my prayers to Him, I must fit into his wave reception. Open this station at once!*" The story goes that Ms. MacPherson then eloped with the government inspector - on his motorcycle.

These stories and many others like them inspired Mark Craver and Mark Hardwick to write RADIO GALS. In those early days of mom and pop radio stations, where professional standards were just being established, it was possible to operate without an engineer and have your voice be heard all across the country. Often, because the standard of entertainment of the time required that performers should be costumed, the musicians and singers would dress up in an appropriate costume despite the fact that there was no audience to see them. It was as if they expected the listening audience to be able to gaze into the radio and know that they were dressed in their regular clothes pretending to be gypsy violinists or masked tenors and the costume would help to fool the listener.

It is this spirit of adventure and inventiveness that is celebrated in RADIO GALS. In an age of niche broadcasting, talk radio, and "shock jocks", it is hard to imagine the effect of local radio on the local audience of the 1920's. We hope that you enjoy your journey back to a time when the ether was free and anyone could be a radio star.

John Rahe, Director

CAST BIOS

Sara Reasoner: (Hazel Hunt) Sara is a senior Communication and Theatre Arts major who plans to delve into the world of Public Relations or Human Resources upon graduation. Sara is the resident of the Columbian Players and this is her seventh SJC production. Her favorite roles include Essie in *You Can't Take It with You*, Gwendolyn Pidgeon in *The Odd Couple*, And (especially) the Witch in *Into the Woods*. As soon as *Radio Gals* is finished, Sara will begin directing her senior seminar project, A Madrigal Dinner. "The past three years have been great, and I hope I can continue performing in the future."

Theresa Richer: (America) Theresa is a senior psychology major who plans to go on to graduate school to get an advanced degree in rehabilitation counseling. Theresa has been secretary of the Columbian Players for the past three years and has been an active member since her freshman year. Her favorite roles include Madge in *Picnic*, Cinderella in *Into the Woods*, Abby Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and Gilmer in *Godspell*. Theresa is also active in other campus activities as well. Theresa says that she has had a lot of fun working on this show and wants to thank her family for always driving four hours to see her perform. ""Thanks for all your love and support these past three years. Love 'ya!"

Sarah Morningstar: (Rennebelle) Sarah is a freshman Chemistry major who is actively involved in St. Joseph's Church as part of the peer and music ministries. Sarah brings performing experience to SJC having appeared in *Charley's Aunt* and *The Music Man* while in high school.

Elizabeth Musick: (Miss Azilee) Liz is a junior from McAllen, TX appearing in her third musical at SJC. She is double majoring in Mathematics and Computer Science and she is also involved in the SJC Chorus, Music Ministry, and the Student Union Board. She would like to thank God, her family and dearest friends for all of their love and support. "Lovins!"

Maura Giles: (Miss Mabel) Maura is a sophomore English major who is active in band, campus ministry and writes for the school newspaper. This is Maura's fourth SJC production.

Amanda Grote: Amanda is a freshman double majoring in Mass Communication and Political Science. This is her debut at SJC but she brings a lot of performing experience with her having appeared in many high school and community theatre productions such as *Guys and Dolls*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Grease*, and *Godspell*.

Doug Koleszar: (O.B. Abbott) Doug is a senior music major and accomplished musician who is active with the College Bands. This is Doug's first SJC production.

CAST BIOS

Hannah Pace: (Miss Hannah) Hannah is a sophomore music major who is appearing in her second SJC production. Hannah was also the pianist and band leader for last years production of *Godspell*.

Kim Gabryel: Kim is a senior Elementary Education major who is appearing onstage for the first time at SJC. Kim has played in the pit band for previous productions.

Brienne Hopkins: Brienne is a freshman majoring in Communication and Theatre Arts who says that she is waiting “for a lightning bolt from God to point out the direction she should take in her career choice. Brienne is a Rensselaer native and has been active in the local high school productions.

Science Hall is a no smoking facility

**Thank you for supporting Theatre at
Saint Joseph's College**



Musical Numbers

Act 1: Sunrise Melody.....The Hazelnuts
Aviatrix Love Song.....America
Horehound Compound.....The Hazelnuts
If Stars Could Talk.....The Hazelnuts
When It's Sweetpea Time in Georgia..Miss Azilee
Dear Mr. Gershwin.....Rennabelle
The Tranquil Boxwood.....Gladys
Fairies in My Mother's Flower Garden..Gladys
Horehound Compound II.....The Hazelnuts
A Fireside, a Pipe, and a Pet.....O.B. Abbott
Edna, the Elephant Girl.....The Hazelnuts
Paging the Ether/Play Gypsies Play.....The Hazelnuts

Act 2: Royal Radio.....America
Weather Song.....The Hazelnuts
Buster, He's a Hot Dog Now.....The Swindles
Why Did You Make Me Love You.....O.B. Abbott
Old Gals.....Hazel and the
Swindle Sisters
A Gal's Got to Do What a Gal's Got to Do.. Hazel
Horehound Compound III.....The Hazelnuts
Whispering Pines.....The Hazelnuts
Wedding of the Flowers.....The Hazelnuts
Queenie Take Me Home.....The Hazelnuts
Sign Off.....The Hazelnuts

Production Crew

Stage Manager.....Amanda Munson
Asst. Stage Manager.....Breain MaAyteh
Lighting.....Lisa Koziol
Followspots.....Betsy Fryksdale
Tim Newman
Tim Hayes
Sound operator.....Eric Schneider
Costume Assistant.....Karyn Greig
Set Construction.....Katie Haendiges, Betsy Fryksdale
Courtney Coe, Adam Collins
Joe Hughes, Wendy Siddner
Sound Recording and editing.....Derek Dabrowiak
House Manager.....Julie Greenberg
Publicity.....Sara Reasoner
Megan Bodnar